

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : W. C. Sullivan

CONFIDENTIAL DATE: 2-12-64

FROM : W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: LEE HARVEY OSWALD
INTERNAL SECURITY-RUSSIA-CUBA

1 - Belmont
1 - Mohr
1 - DeLoach
1 - Sullivan
1 - Malley
1 - Branigan

1 - Turner
1 - Lenihan

Classified by 2040
Exempt from GDS, Category III
Date of Declassification Indefinite

Memorandum from Sullivan to Belmont 1-28-64 briefly outlined the basis for and the scope of investigation of subject prior to the assassination. The Director inquired if we checked with other Government agencies (CIA, State and Defense) to determine what, if anything, they had on subject before the assassination.

State Department Checks:

Prior to the assassination, State Department furnished us copies of communications received from the American Embassy in Moscow at the time and subsequent to subject's defection to Russia in October, 1959. In a letter to State Department 2-27-61, we requested any additional information regarding subject and WFO agents also checked State Department files on 5-9-61, 8-22-61, 1-29-62 and 6-5-62. The last date was just before Oswald's return to the U. S.

After the assassination we again checked State Department for data concerning Oswald and State Department made available to us a copy of the file the American Embassy in Moscow maintained on Oswald. This file consisted of communications from Oswald to the American Embassy in Moscow while Oswald was in Russia, letters to him from the Embassy and memoranda prepared by consular officers concerning his case. There was nothing in the American Embassy, Moscow, file which would indicate or suggest that Oswald in any way represented a threat to the personal safety of the President.

Department of Defense Checks:

Prior to the assassination we did not specifically check with the Department of Defense, but did contact Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) on 11-2-59 at the time of Oswald's defection to Russia, because Oswald was described in publicity as a former U.S. Marine.

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REL:mhw (9)

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Section 97

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At that time we obtained a summary of his Marine file and later, on 11-15-60, ONI informed us that subject had been given an undesirable discharge. U

Immediately following the assassination we again checked with ONI concerning Oswald and were furnished a copy of the Marine Corps file concerning Oswald. The only items of significance in the Marine Corps file that had not previously been obtained from Marine records concerning Oswald was information that Oswald was convicted by two Subunary courts-martial hearings in 1958. The first was based on a charge that he possessed a privately-owned weapon, a .22 caliber derringer, that was not registered. The second was based on the charge that Oswald had wrongfully used provoking words to a staff non-commissioned officer. U

Subsequent to the assassination of President Kennedy we also determined that Departments of the Army and the Air Force had no information of significance on Oswald in their files prior to the assassination of President Kennedy. U

CIA Checks:



Immediately following the assassination of President Kennedy we again checked with CIA to see if they had any data in their possession not previously furnished us. CIA indicated it had no data in its possession that had not already been made available to Bureau prior to the assassination. U

INS Checks:

Prior to the assassination of the President we checked records of INS on 6-22-62. On 7-12-62 we checked INS files concerning subject's wife. No information was obtained from INS concerning subject or his wife of pertinence subsequent to the assassination of President Kennedy. U

ACTION: None. This is for information. U

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